

separating said chamber into first and second parts and first valve means for varying a direction of liquid flow through said chamber and said filtering element, said valve means in a first attitude causing said liquid to flow in a first direction through said chamber and said membrane for filtering of said liquid, said valve means in a second attitude causing liquid to flow through said chamber and said membrane in a second direction, opposite said first direction, for backwashing said ^[membrane] ~~membrane~~ ^{membrane}, said valve means being operable to reverse said direction of liquid flow through said filtering membrane when ~~excessive~~ resistance to flow through said filtering membrane during filtering of said liquid occurs.

wherein said valve means is coupled to said filtering membrane and wherein said filtering membrane causes said valve means to move between said first and second attitudes ^{in response to said resistance}.

Claim 13, line 1, delete "12" and insert --11--.

Kindly cancel claims 4 and 12.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

Page 8, line 13, delete "is",

line 38, after "overcome" delete "," and insert

--and the lower surface 53 of fingers 50 move free of the surface 34,--.

Page 9, line 18, after "suction" insert --effect--,

line 38, delete "the valve member 27".

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the outstanding Office Action (Paper No. 9) dated January 4, 2000, and is believed to be fully responsive to the objections and rejections raised therein. In view of the foregoing amendments, and the comments which follow, favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.